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217 Glengarry Rd.,
Kingston. Ont.,
CANADA K7M 3J6
(613) 544-2872

Dear Sir/Madam:

The East Timor West Papua Solidarity Coalition, a Kingston-based group, is trying to organise a petition to be published as an ad in a national newspaper. We are trying to get as many signatures for it as possible. Below is a rough draft; please let us know any suggestions you might have. Could you also show it to people in other organisations who might be interested in signing it.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

Bill Ripley

Bill Ripley

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The Indonesian occupation of East Timor and West Papua is a genocide against the First Nations of those lands. Over 300,000 people have been killed by a military regime intent on consolidating the corporate interests of industrialised states. Canada is one of those states: it is the third largest investor in Indonesia; it provides the regime with military equipment, such as rockets, ammunition and engines for attack helicopters; and our government gives diplomatic cover for the regime at the United Nations by voting against resolutions calling for the end to Indonesian rule and the right to self-determination of the Timorese peoples.

We, the undersigned, therefore call on the Canadian government to suspend all military sales to the regime; to withdraw from the Inter-governmental Group on Indonesia - an international consortium, in which Canada gives the regime tens of millions of dollars yearly; and to launch an inquiry, open to public participation, into development aid to the regime. The Canadian government should also recognise the right to self-determination of the Timorese and Papuan peoples, and work, through the United Nations and other international fora, toward seeing this right fulfilled.